

# MOSQUITO CREEK TIMBER SALE

November 17, 2008 Land Board

## **LOCATION OF SALE:**

- Plains Unit (NWLO) – Approximately 7 air miles northwest of Thompson Falls, Montana.
- Sanders County – Sections 16, T22N, R30W
- 100% Common School

## **SALE VOLUME & ESTIMATED VALUE:**

- The estimated volume is 14,900 tons (2,047 MBF) with an estimated minimum value of \$187,740.00 or \$12.60/ton.
- In addition to the estimated stumpage value, a fee of \$4.38/ton for Forest Improvement will be charged for all merchantable sawlog timber harvested.
- The conversion factor is 7.28 tons/MBF.

## **SALE & HARVEST TREATMENTS:**

- Silvicultural prescriptions would include seed tree harvest on 161 acres, commercial thinning would consist of 124 acres, and shelterwood on 49 acres.
- The prescriptions are designed to promote timber types historically found in the area, improve forest health, and promote natural regeneration.
- No old growth would be harvested.

## **HARVEST SYSTEMS:**

- 73% tractor
- 27% skyline

## **ROAD CONSTRUCTION:**

- Approximately 2.79 miles of new road construction and 1.8 miles of reconstruction/recondition are required to access the harvest units and upgrade existing roads to meet current BMPs. All currently closed roads and all new construction will be gated closed to promote wildlife security and reduce the spread of noxious weeds.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & ISSUES:**

- Public involvement was solicited through legal notices in the Valley Press and the Sanders County Ledger. Letters were also sent to adjacent landowners and special interest groups. The public, DNRC specialists and specialists from other agencies helped identify the issues that were analyzed. The areas of concern were suspension of licensed grazing and spread of noxious weeds.

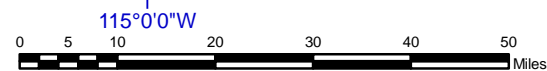
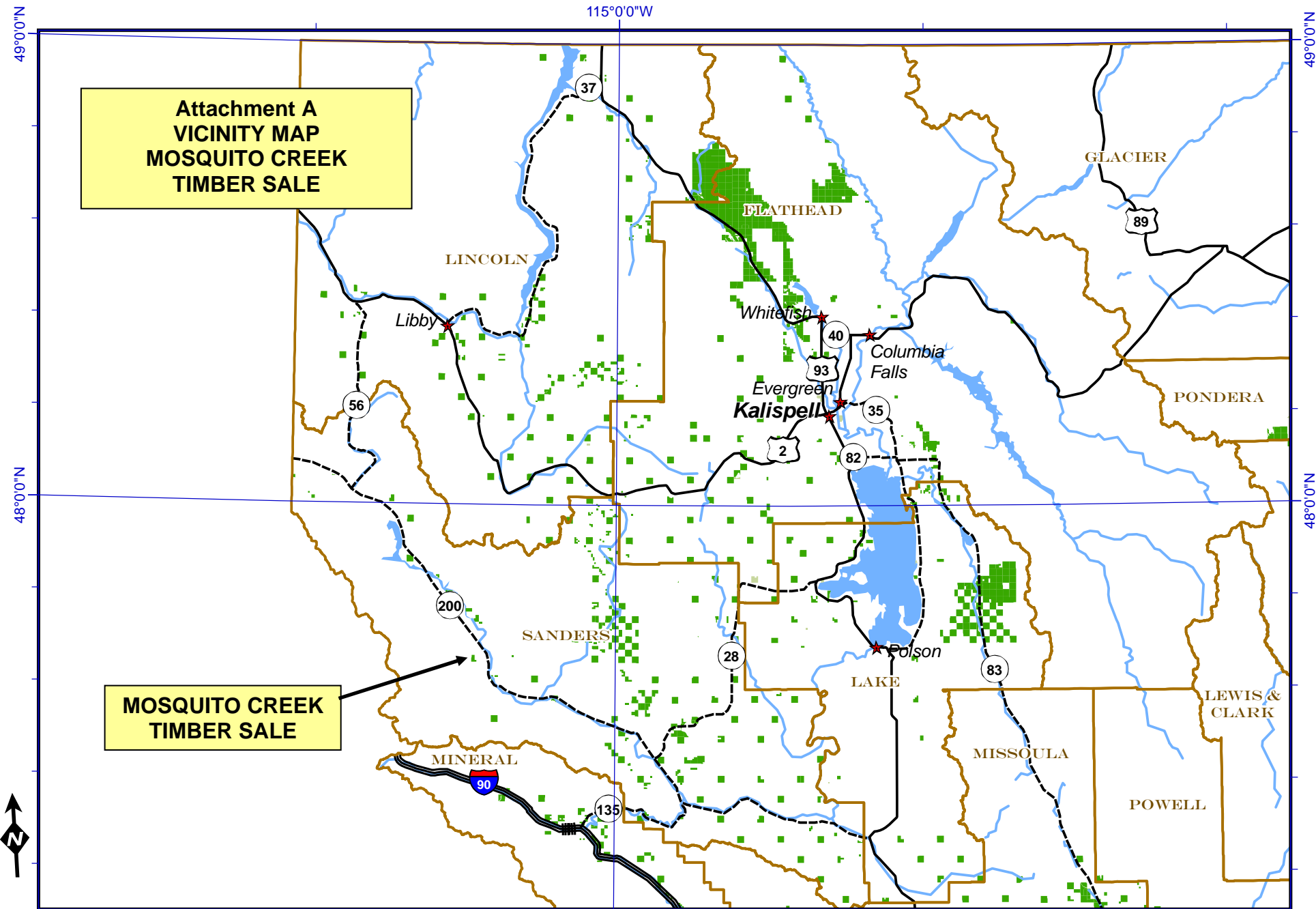
## **PUBLIC COMMENTS, ISSUES AND MITIGATIONS:**

**Soils:** Equipment operations have been limited to periods when soils are relatively dry (less than 20%), frozen or snow covered to minimize soil compaction and rutting, and maintain drainage features.

**Cattle Grazing:** The project area is currently licensed for cattle grazing. Following the timber sale, cattle grazing will be suspended for several years to protect tree regeneration, reduce bank compaction, and increase or maintain channel bank stability. Grazing will not be allowed until vegetation has been adequately established to avoid any sediment delivery to the Class II stream.

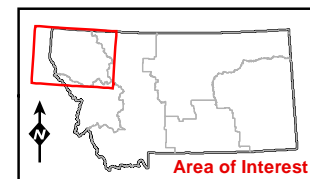
**Weed Management:** By using an integrated weed management plan, the spread of noxious weeds would be limited by inspecting and power washing all off-road equipment used for felling, skidding, log processing, and loading activities before being brought on site. All disturbed areas would be grass seeded, and the project area would be monitored and, if needed, scheduled for follow-up herbicide treatment.

**The Director recommends that the Land Board direct the Department to sell the Mosquito Creek Timber Sale.**



	Interstate Highway		Rivers		Lakes
	U.S. Route		City		DNRC managed for timber
	State Highway		County		DNRC other

21 February 2007  
Montana DNRC  
Technical Services Section/dr



# Mosquito Creek TS, Harvest Plan

S16 T22N R30W



**Little Beaver Creek  
County Rd.**

**Upper Mosquito Creek Rd.  
USFS #300**

Unit 16-S5  
38 acres

**Rd. 16-1**

Unit 16-T5  
7 acres

Unit 16-T6  
63 acres

Unit 16-T4  
35 acres

Unit 16-T4  
3 acres

Unit 16-S3  
50 acres

**Rd. 16-3**

**Rd. 16-4**

Unit 16-T3  
27 acres




Unit 16-S1  
23 acres

Unit 16-T2  
37 acres

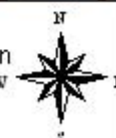
**Rd. 16-2**

Unit 16-T1  
42 acres

**Rd. 16-5**

-  Proposed Haul Route
-  40 ft contours
-  New Construction

Montana DNRC  
Trust Land Management Division  
Northwestern Land Office  
Plains Unit



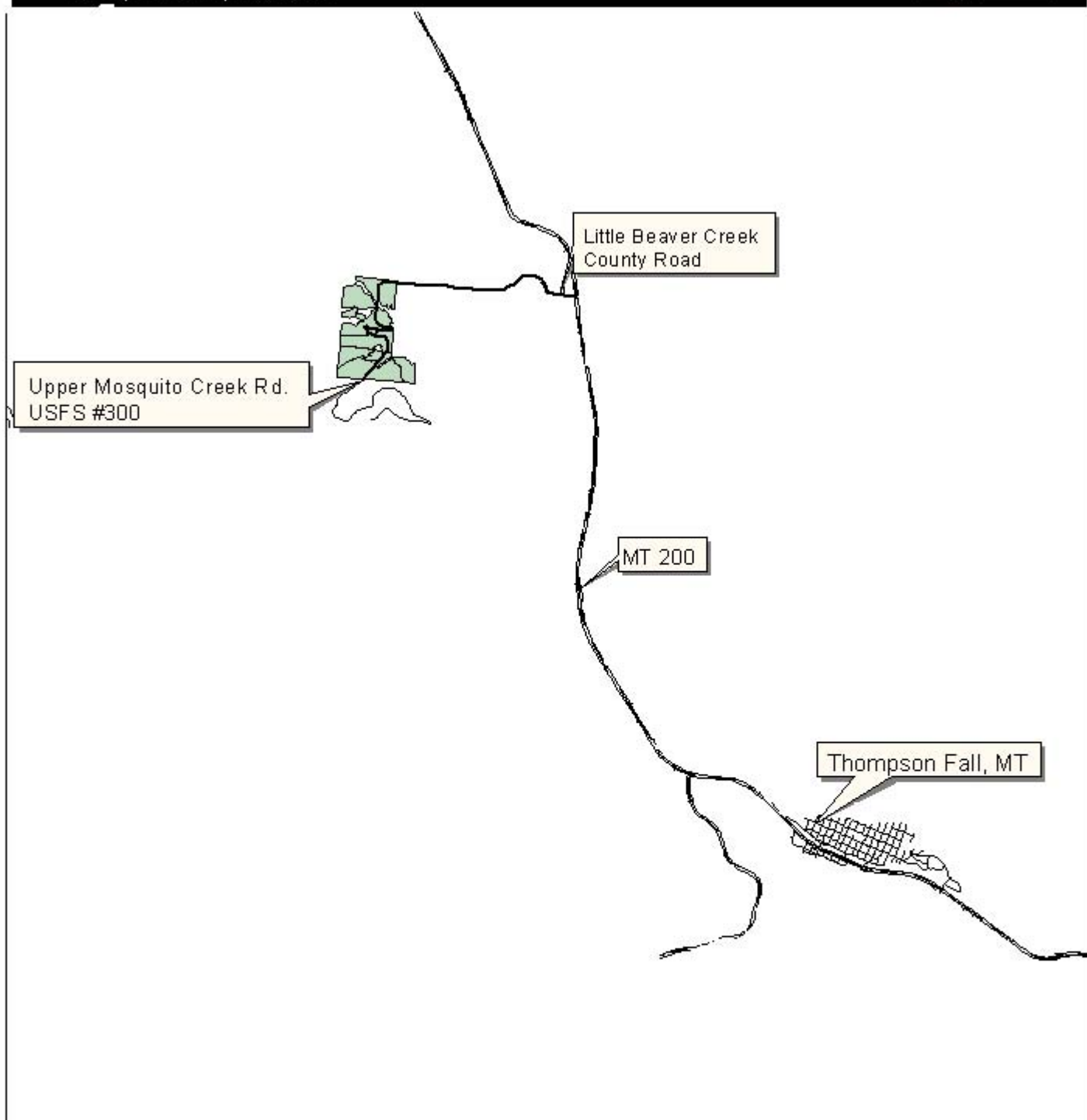
0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 Miles

1 : 12,672 1 inch = 0.20 miles



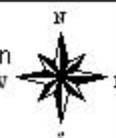
# Mosquito Creek TS, Haul Route

S16, T22N, R30W



- Proposed Haul Route
- Mosquito Creek Timber Sale

Montana DNRC  
Trust Land Management Division  
Northwestern Land Office  
Plains Unit



0.75 0 0.75 1.5 2.25 3 Miles

1 : 95,040 1 inch = 1.50 miles